

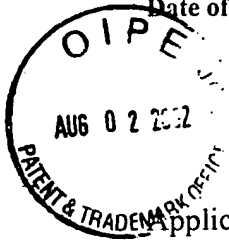
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants:

R. Buckley

For:

SLIP-RESISTANT HORIZONTAL SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER BOAT

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

This reply is made in response to the Office Action dated May 7, 2002. This Response is due on or before August 7, 2002. Kindly enter the following amendments and remarks in response to the Office Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

***In the specification:***

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 18 and extending to page 11, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

① Taking the several considerations outlined above into account, the inventive wafer boat was developed. FIGS. 2 and 3 are schematic representations of one embodiment of the wafer boat 30 in accordance with the present invention, as viewed from different angles. In particular, unlike current wafer boats which provide support for each wafer at four points (two lower points to support the weight of the wafer, and two upper points to maintain the wafer in the vertical orientation as illustrated in FIG. 1), the wafer boat of the present invention is provided with two upper support guides 36a, 36b to maintain the wafer 32 in the vertical orientation, and a single lower supporting grooved portion 38 to support the weight of the wafer 32. Once the material of which wafer boat 30 is fabricated is selected, the supporting grooved portion 38 which is in a plane lower than the upper